THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Razia Sultan's Tomb at Delhi is a centrally protected monument and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has maintained it in a good state of preservation.

(c) and (d) the ASI has taken up action against the unauthorised constructions around the monument under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Rule, 1959, framed thereunder. Besides, it has prepared a plan to provide signage and essential facilities for the sake of the tourists.

Restoration of historical wail of Shahjahanabad

2986. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wall that gave the walled city (Shahjahanabad) its name and character is disappearing; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to restore the historical wall?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) In September, 2002, a part of the city wall of Shahjahanabad in Daryaganj area was brought under central protection. A small portion thereof partially collapsed due to the heavy rains in July. The Archaeological Survey of India has promptly & vigorously taken up the work of conservation of the wall.

New construction project around Hampi

2987. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO has strongly objected to the building of two bridges across the Tungabhadra saying that development work, pollution and vibrations from vehicles will steadily destroy the 400 years old heritage site of Hampi;

(b) whether it is mandatory for Government to inform UNESCO about the development work around heritage sites and if so, whether Government have informed the UNESCO of the new construction projects around Hampi;

(c) whether the Paris based World Heritage Committee had marked Hampi as a heritage site 'in danger"; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) UNESCO has taken notice of the construction of a vehicular bridge near Anegondi and a foot bridge near Virupaksha Temple across the river Tungabhadra within the World Heritage protected area and their impact on the authenticity and integrity of the site.

(b) World Heritage Committee invites all state parties to inform the committee through UNESCO Secretariat, their intention to take up major restorations or new constructions. Requisite information on new projects taken up at Hampi have been brought to the notice of UNESCO.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Corrective measures suggested by UNESCO mission are being implemented by Government of Karnataka.

Facilities at pilgrim centres in Karnataka

2988. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop infrastructural facilities at important tourists and pilgrim centres in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b)The Department of Tourism, Government of India has introduced schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/ Infrastructure and destination Development and assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects during the 10th Plan to improve tourist infrastructure in the country. Improvement of tourist infrastructure at pilgrim centres is also eligible for assistance under these scheme.